



# Village of Shorewood Police Department

*Aaron G. Klima*  
*Chief of Police*

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## Shop With a Cop: Holiday Stop

For the last several years, the Shorewood Police Department has participated in the annual Shop with a Cop event. This is an opportunity for children who are underprivileged or may have endured hardships in the previous year which no child should have to bear. Traditionally, children and families of need are identified largely through the schools and nominated for attendance. The morning of the event, officers donate their time to take a child shopping at the local Target store and purchase items for themselves and their loved ones if they choose. After the shopping trip and a short bus ride, the children and officers share a lunch together and a visit from Santa. The event allows officers and the children to interact and develop a connection which helps build trust and friendship between young people and the police.

This year is different of course, and we are all doing our best to keep each other and our community safe from the COVID-19 pandemic. Officers will not be able to spend time directly with the children and the event will not be quite as it used to be. But the children identified in the community will still be facing the hardship and need they would in any other year.

This year the Police Department is going to host a "Holiday Stop" at the Shorewood Police Department. Nominated children and their families will be invited to the Police Department throughout the day of the event and be able to still see and interact with the officers to the extent social distancing allows, get a gift and a gift card, and even a holiday treat to send them off with.

This event is always immensely popular with the officers and this year they will be disappointed, but as with everything we are trying our best to adapt and make the most of the situation. Shop with a Cop is funded entirely by donations from the community and one hundred percent of the money raised is used to give these children a little extra joy for the holidays and a positive experience with law enforcement officers.

If you wish to donate to Shop with a Cop to keep this program going, donations are taken at the Shorewood Police Department during business hours or can be mailed to:

**Shorewood Police Department**  
**Attn: Shop with a Cop**  
**903 W. Jefferson St.**  
**Shorewood, IL 60404**